

In the Claims

Claims 1, 9, 10, 12, 20, 25, 27, 30 and 31 have been amended to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A medical device support apparatus comprising
a telescoping pole assembly including a first member and a second member
movable relative to the first member along an axis in a first direction and a second direction
opposite to the first direction and

a lock member formed to include an edge defining a four-sided aperture, the
second member being received in the aperture, the lock member having a second position in
which the edge engages the second member to prevent movement of the second member
relative to the first member in the first direction and the lock member having a first position
in which the edge disengages from the second member so that the second member is movable
along the axis relative to the first member in the first direction and the second direction.

2. (Amended) The medical device support of claim 1, wherein the lock
member and the axis define a first angle therebetween when the lock member is in the first
position and a second angle that deviates from the first angle when the lock member is in the
second position.

6. (Amended) The medical device support of claim 5, wherein the
release is positioned to slide on the housing during movement of the lock member between
the first and second positions.

9. (Amended) A medical device support apparatus comprising
a telescoping pole assembly including a first member and a second member
movable relative to the first member along an axis in a first direction and a second direction
opposite to the first direction, and

a lock member formed to include an edge defining an aperture, the second
member being received in the aperture, the lock member having a second position in which
the edge engages the second member to prevent movement of the second member relative to
the first member in the first direction, movement in the first direction causing the pole
assembly to shorten, the lock member having a first position in which the edge disengages
from the second member so that the second member is movable along the axis relative to the

first member in the first direction and the second direction, the movement in the second direction causing the pole assembly to elongate, and the lock member, when in the second position, being configured to allow movement of the second member relative to the first member in the second direction.

10. (Amended) A medical device support assembly configured to support a medical device thereon, the medical device support assembly comprising

a base pole,

an adjustment pole configured to support the medical device thereon, and

a lock member coupling the adjustment pole to the base pole, the lock member being moveable between a first position permitting movement of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole to permit shortening and lengthening the support assembly and a second position preventing shortening of the support assembly and permitting lengthening of the support assembly, the lock member being substantially flat to define a plane.

12. (Amended) A medical device support assembly configured to support a medical device thereon, the medical device support assembly comprising

a base pole,

an adjustment pole configured to support the medical device thereon, and

a lock member coupling the adjustment pole to the base pole, the lock member being moveable between a first position permitting movement of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole and a second position locking the position of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole, the lock member being substantially flat to define a plane, the lock member being configured such that a force exerted on the adjustment pole in a second, assembly lengthening, direction urges the lock member to the first position.

13. (Amended) The medical device support assembly of claim 12, wherein a force exerted on the adjustment pole in a first direction opposite said second direction urges the lock member to the second position.

20. (Amended) A medical device support assembly configured to support a medical device thereon, the IV pole assembly comprising

a base pole,

an adjustment pole configured to support the medical device thereon, the adjustment pole having a longitudinal axis, and

a coupling configured to couple the adjustment pole to the base pole, the coupling including a lock member configured to move between first and second positions, the lock member, when in the first position, and the longitudinal axis defining a first angle therebetween, the lock member, when in the second position, and the longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole defining a second angle therebetween that deviates from the first angle, the lock member being configured to permit movement of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole with the lock member in the first position, the lock member being configured to block movement of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole with the lock member in the second position, the lock member being configured to move from the second position to the first position when an assembly lengthening force is applied to the adjustment pole.

25. (Amended) A medical device support assembly configured to support a medical device thereon, the medical device support assembly comprising

a base pole,

an adjustment pole configured to move relative to the base pole, the adjustment pole having a longitudinal axis, and

a lock member positioned to block relative movement of the adjustment pole and the base pole, the lock member being configured to pivot about a pivot axis between a first position blocking relative movement and a second position permitting movement,

a release having a first position, the first position of the release configured to position the lock member in the first position of the lock member, and

a spring contacting the release and urging the release to the first position.

27. (Amended) A medical device support assembly configured to support a medical device thereon, the medical device support assembly comprising

a base pole,

an adjustment pole configured to move relative to the base pole, the adjustment pole having a longitudinal axis,

a lock member positioned to block relative movement of the adjustment pole and the base pole, and

a housing sized to receive the lock member, the lock member being hingedly coupled to the housing, the lock member being configured to pivot about a pivot axis between a first position blocking the relative movement and a second position permitting the

relative movement, the pivot axis deviating from the longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole, the housing including a groove sized to receive an end of the lock member.

29. (Amended) The medical device support assembly of claim 25, further comprising a release configured to pivot the lock member between the first and second positions, wherein the lock member is hingedly coupled to the release member.

30. (Amended) A medical device support assembly configured to support a medical device thereon, the medical device support assembly comprising

a base pole,

an adjustment pole configured to move relative to the base pole, the adjustment pole having a longitudinal axis,

a lock member positioned to block relative movement of the adjustment pole and the base pole, and

a release configured to pivot the lock member between the first and second positions, the lock member being hingedly coupled to the release member, the lock member being configured to pivot about a pivot axis between a first position blocking the relative movement and a second position permitting the relative movement, the pivot axis deviating from the longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole, the release including a notch sized to receive an end of the lock member.

31. (Amended) A medical support device assembly configured to support a medical device thereon, the medical support device assembly comprising

a base pole,

an adjustment pole configured to support the medical device thereon, the base pole and the adjustment pole cooperating to define a pole assembly length, the adjustment pole being configured to move in a first direction relative to the base pole to decrease the pole assembly length and a second direction relative to the base pole to increase the pole assembly length,

a coupling configured to couple the adjustment pole to the base pole to permit the adjustment pole to move in first direction relative to the base pole and an opposite second direction relative to the base pole, the coupling, the base pole, and the adjustment pole being made of corrosion resistant materials to prevent substantial corrosion thereof, and

a release configured to slide on the housing.

Please add claims 38-87.

38. (New) The medical device support of claim 9, wherein the lock member and the axis define a first angle therebetween when the lock member is in the first position and a second angle that deviates from the first angle when the lock member is in the second position.

39. (New) The medical device support of claim 9, wherein the lock member is pivotably coupled to the housing.

40. (New) The medical device support of claim 9, wherein the edge is continuous.

41. (New) The medical device support of claim 9, wherein the lock member is plate-like.

42. (New) The medical device support of claim 9, wherein the release is positioned to slide on the housing during movement of the lock member between the first and second positions.

43. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 12, wherein the plane defined by the lock member is positioned at a first angle relative to a longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole when the lock member is in the first position and the plane deviates from being positioned at the first angle relative to the longitudinal axis when the lock member is in the second position.

44. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 12, wherein a force exerted on the adjustment pole urges the lock member to the second position.

45. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 12, further comprising a release coupled to the lock member and movable between first and second positions, wherein the release, when in the first position, positions the lock member in the first position and the release, when in the second position, positions the lock member in the second position.

46. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 45, wherein the release is biased to the second position.

47. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 12, wherein the lock member is biased to the second position.

48. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 12, wherein the lock member is plate-like.

49. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 12, wherein the lock member includes an inner edge defining an aperture through the lock member, the aperture has a central axis that is askew of the longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole when the lock member is in the second position.

50. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 23, wherein the lock member includes a substantially flat surface defining the first and second angles between the lock member and the longitudinal axis.

51. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 50, wherein the second angle deviates from 90 degrees.

52. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 23, wherein the lock member is biased to the second position.

53. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 27, further comprising a release configured to pivot the lock member between the first and second positions, wherein the lock member is hingedly coupled to the release member.

54. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 30, further comprising a release configured to pivot the lock member between the first and second positions, wherein the lock member is hingedly coupled to the release member.

55. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 30, further comprising a corrosion resistant spring biasing the release.

56. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 30, further comprising a hook coupled to the adjustment pole, wherein the hook being configured to support the medical device thereon and the hook is made of a corrosion resistant material.

57. (New) The medical device support assembly of claim 30, wherein at least one of the adjustment pole and the base pole are made of a plastics material.

58. (New) A method for supporting a medical device comprising the steps of:

providing a medical device support including a first member and a second member movable relative to the first member along an axis in a first direction and a second

direction opposite to the first direction, and a lock member formed to include an edge defining an aperture, the second member being received in the aperture, the lock member having a first position in which the edge disengages from the second member so that the second member is movable along the axis relative to the first member in the first direction and the second direction, and the lock member having a second position in which the edge engages the second member to prevent movement of the second member relative to the first member in the first direction, movement in the first direction causing the support to shorten, movement in the second direction causing the support to elongate,

attaching the medical device to the support,

adjusting the height of the support to a desired height, and

fixing the length of the support.

59. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the lock member and the axis define a first angle therebetween when the lock member is in the first position and a second angle that deviates from the first angle when the lock member is in the second position.

60. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the support further includes a housing coupled to the telescoping pole assembly and the lock member is positioned in an interior region of the housing.

61. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the lock member is pivotably coupled to the housing.

62. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the support further includes a release configured to move the lock member between the first and second positions.

63. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein the release is positioned to slide on the housing during movement of the lock member between the first and second positions.

64. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the edge is continuous.

65. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the lock member is plate-like.

66. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the lock member, when in the first position, allows adjusting of the second member relative to the first member in the second direction.

67. (New) A method for supporting a medical device comprising the steps of:

providing a medical device support comprising a base pole, an adjustment pole configured to support the medical device thereon, and a lock member coupling the adjustment pole to the base pole, the lock member being moveable between a first position permitting movement of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole and a second position locking the position of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole, the lock member being substantially flat to define a plane,

attaching the medical device to the support,
adjusting the height of the support, and
fixing the length of the support.

68. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the plane defined by the lock member is positioned at a first angle relative to a longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole when the lock member is in the first position and the plane deviates from being positioned at the first angle relative to the longitudinal axis when the lock member is in the second position.

69. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein a force exerted on the adjustment pole in a second, assembly lengthening, direction urges the lock member to the first position.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein a force exerted on the adjustment pole in a first direction opposite the second direction urges the lock member to the second position.

71. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein a force exerted on the adjustment pole in a first direction urges the lock member to the second position.

72. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the support further includes a release coupled to the lock member, the release configured to be movable between first and second positions, the release, when in the first position, positions the lock member in the first position and the release, when in the second position, positions the lock member in the second position.

73. (New) The method of claim 72, wherein the release is biased to the second position.

74. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the lock member is biased to the second position.

75. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the lock member is plate-like.

76. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the lock member includes an inner edge defining an aperture through the lock member, the aperture has a central axis that is askew of the longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole when the lock member is in the second position.

77. (New) A method for supporting a medical device comprising the steps of:

providing a medical device support including a base pole, an adjustment pole configured to support the medical device thereon, the adjustment pole having a longitudinal axis, and a coupling configured to couple the adjustment pole to the base pole, the coupling including a lock member configured to move between first and second positions, the lock member, when in the first position, and the longitudinal axis defining a first angle therebetween, the lock member, when in the second position, and the longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole defining a second angle therebetween that deviates from the first angle, the lock member being configured to permit movement of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole with the lock member in the first position, the lock member being configured to block movement of the adjustment pole relative to the base pole in a first shortening direction and allow adjustment in a second elongating direction with the lock member in the second position,

attaching the medical device to the support,
adjusting the height of the support, and
fixing the length of the support.

78. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein the lock member includes a substantially flat surface defining the first and second angles between the lock member and the longitudinal axis.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the second angle deviates from 90 degrees.

80. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein the first angle deviates from 90 degrees.

81. (New) The method of claim 77, wherein the lock member is biased to the second position.

82. (New) A method for supporting a medical device comprising the steps of:

providing a medical device support including a base pole, an adjustment pole configured to move relative to the base pole, the adjustment pole having a longitudinal axis, and a lock member positioned to block relative movement of the adjustment pole and the base pole, the lock member being configured to pivot about a pivot axis between a first position blocking the relative movement in a first direction and permitting the relative movement in a second direction and a second position permitting the relative movement in both first and second directions, the pivot axis deviating from the longitudinal axis of the adjustment pole,

attaching the medical device to the support,
adjusting the height of the support, and
fixing the length of the support.

83. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the support further includes a housing sized to receive the lock member and the lock member is hingedly coupled to the housing.

84. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein the housing includes a groove sized to receive an end of the lock member.

85. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein the support further includes a release configured to pivot the lock member between the first and second positions and the lock member is hingedly coupled to the release member.

86. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein the support further includes a release configured to pivot the lock member between the first and second positions and the lock member is hingedly coupled to the release member.

87. (New) The method of claim 86, wherein the release includes a notch sized to receive an end of the lock member.